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SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" In view of the possibility that some of the Collectors might not be aware of the fact that they have the power to order such payments, unless it is brought to their notice, is it not better that they are informed accordingly by a circular? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" The Collectors have got the power to do so and they are aware of it and there is no need to issue general instructions in the matter."

Quota of rice allotted to Tinnevelly and Ramnad districts.

* 69 Q.—SRI K. MANATHUNAINATHA DESIGAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(*a*) the quota of rice allotted to the districts of Ramnad and Tinnevelly in the months of January and February 1948; and

(*b*) the quantities actually supplied against the allotted quotas?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" (*a*) The quotas of rice allotted are as follows :—

District.	January.	February.
Ramnad.	4,500 tons.	5,000 tons.
Tinnevelly.	4,500 tons.	5,000 tons.

" (*b*) The entire quantities mentioned above have been supplied."

SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" May I know, Sir, whether these are deficit or surplus districts? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Both Ramnad and Tinnevelly are deficit districts, Sir."

SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" Is it the policy of Government not to send any rice to the deficit districts hereafter, above the allotted quota? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" The information I have given will show that wherever there is a demand for more rice particularly on account of any sudden food shortage, the Government take the earliest measures to meet it, independent of the fact whether the particular district is a deficit or a surplus district. It is the general belief that surplus districts do not require that sort of help, but even there, if there is any sudden shortage, the Government will do the needful to meet the shortage."

SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" Is it not a fact that the Collector of Kurnool has been informed by the Government that although Kurnool is a deficit district in rice that no rice will hereafter be sent to that district? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" The Kurnool district is predominently a millet producing district and the people of that district are mostly millet eaters. But if the Collector requires some quantity of rice urgently for meeting any

emergency or any unforeseen demand, he will certainly be supplied with rice. But it is a general rule that in a district, which is surplus in millets, and where millet is the normal consumption of the population, there should be no stock of rice, and I do not think that there is any need to stock any rice there. But if it is asked for at any time, it will be given."

Sri N. SANKARA REDDI :—" Sir, is it not a fact that about 25 to 30 per cent of the people of that district are rice-eaters and that the present stock of rice is not sufficient for them and that some more rice should be sent there?"

The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" It is the Collector of the district who is to examine the question and if he wants more rice to be sent to the district and explains the reasons therefor, the Government will consider and do something in the matter."

Sri R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Is South Kanara a deficit or a surplus district?"

The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" If the hon. Member had watched the debate on the adjournment motion in the other House the other day, he would have known what it is. But all the same, we consider that South Kanara is a surplus district."

Popularising of fish eating.

* 70 *Q.*—Sri K. MANATHUNAINATHA DESIGAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state what steps the Government have taken to popularise fish eating and make it available in the deficit areas in the ensuing months?

The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" No special steps are considered necessary by the Government for popularising the eating of fish. The Government have sanctioned several Grow More Fish Schemes for increasing the production of fish in the Province. One of the items of work proposed to be undertaken by the Fishery Marketing Officer in the immediate future is the provision of increased transport facilities for fish and fishery products from surplus areas to deficit areas."

Sri B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU :—" Is there enough fish at all to catch?"

The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Sir, I think we have got a wide sea coast and have got all the facilities and natural resources for deep-sea fishing."

Sri B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU :—" May I know if we have got enough catch to feed the population?"

The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Sir, so far as facilities for deep-sea fishing are concerned, I must admit, we have